

city of Quebec rise, the royal yacht was sighted over the point of the Island of Orleans. Expectant Quebec in thousands thronged the heights. The whole population of St. Roch had turned out *en masse* to greet our royal guests. No longer, as in the days of Wolfe, was it a question of taking Quebec by storm; no longer the thunders that broke forth from the forts belched forth death and destruction, but from the mouths of her cannon the old city roared out a loyal welcome from a whole people to the heir to the throne of England.

That the visit of the Prince of Wales was but a triumphal march throughout the length and breadth of the land we all know from press reports. And when, on board the yacht which was taking him back to England, the Prince reviewed in his mind the rich domains he had travelled over, as also the cordial and enthusiastic welcome extended to him by the people of this mighty Dominion; when he looked back at the great manufacturing centres he had visited, where industrial life and activity are in full growth and development; all this no doubt vividly brought home to him the reality of the strange phenomenon which is being enacted on this continent, of Anglo Saxons, Normans, Scotchmen and Irishmen working shoulder to shoulder to the upbuilding of a prosperous and happy nation.

Mr. Speaker, as there are amongst my constituents a number of my electors who are of English origin (though I may say they are not very numerous), I deem it my duty on this occasion to address a few words to the House in the English language. It is, I know, scarcely necessary for me to ask from the members of this hon. body that indulgence which is usually extended to every new member. Hon. gentlemen who listen to these few remarks will easily see that this language is not familiar to me; not nearly as familiar as the tongue which I was taught to speak in the days of my youth. In reading the speech which His Excellency addressed to us yesterday, one at once reaches the idea that this government, although anxious to aim at still better results in the future, if that be possible, are perfectly satisfied with the existing state of affairs.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Hear, hear.

Mr. BELAND. Yes, the existing government is perfectly satisfied because the people of the country at large are satisfied. Whether you stand at the door of the farmer, or at the door of the workingman; whether you stand at the door of the artisan, or at the door of the manufacturer; wherever you go, whether it be in the streets of the city or into the remotest lumbering regions, whether on the coast of the Atlantic, or whether in the mining districts of the Yukon or of British Columbia; wherever you go your eye and your ear will be delighted with the sound and the sight of prosperity throughout this broad land. I am here, Sir, as the

representative of perhaps the largest rural district in Eastern Canada, and it becomes my duty to express my gratitude to this government, which has conferred such benefits upon the farming community of this country. By the aid and solicitude of the present government new and profitable markets have been secured for our products. The preferential tariff, the eloquent speeches that have been delivered in England by the prime minister; the readiness with which the appeal of the motherland was answered by Canada when she was in want of moral and even substantial support during the struggle in South Africa; all of these circumstances have tended to create a favourable sentiment for Canadian products in the British market. Then again, the transportation facilities which have been provided by the Minister of Agriculture (Hon. Mr. Fisher) have not been the least amongst the processes by which this country has reached its present prosperity. As my hon. friend from West York (Mr. Campbell) has covered the most important parts referred to in the Speech from the Throne, it is unnecessary for me to dwell upon them at length. Let me say that all of us in this great country should entertain enthusiastic hopes for the future. There are in Canada citizens of different creeds and different races. Along side of the Irish we have the English, alongside of the French we have the Scotch, alongside of the Protestant we have the Catholic, and though we may differ in nationality and in religion, though one may speak the tongue of Louis XIV. and another the tongue of Shakspeare, let us all remember that our duty is to build up a prosperous and happy country founded on principles of tolerance and equal rights to all. I see in this House members on both sides whose hair has faded from its original colour in the work of securing peace and harmony between the heterogeneous elements of our population. Let me express the hope that before these gentlemen pass from the troubles of this earth they will gather the fruit of their patriotic efforts.

It is scarcely necessary for me to refer to the visit paid to this country by the Prince and Princess of Wales. If those who are not acquainted with our population in the province of Quebec and who do not know the sentiment of that province, if they had had the privilege of witnessing the grand scene presented when our people in the old city of Quebec greeted the landing of the illustrious visitors; if it had been their privilege to hear the deafening cheers of the people of East Quebec so eminently represented by the prime minister; if it had been their privilege to glance at the beautiful women of that old city waving flags and handkerchiefs and throwing flowers at the feet of the royal visitors, I am sure they would have said from the bottom of their hearts that a people so enthusiastic on that occasion, could never be disloyal. Not only have